United Nations A/BUR/55/SR.8

General Assembly
Fifty-fifth session

Official Records

Distr.: General
11 September 2001

Original: English

General Committee

Summary record of the 8th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 6 September 2001, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Holkeri (President of the General Assembly) ..... (Finland)

Contents

Adoption of the agenda of the fifty-fifth regular session of the General Assembly and allocation of items (*continued*)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Bangladesh, China, Colombia, Egypt, Gambia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Tunisia, Uganda and Zimbabwe

Implementation of General Assembly resolution 51/241, paragraph 34

This record is subject to correction. Corrections should be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned *within one week of the date of publication* to the Chief of the Official Records Editing Section, room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza, and incorporated in a copy of the record.

Corrections will be issued after the end of the session, in a separate corrigendum for each Committee.

01-53005 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda of the fifty-fifth regular session of the General Assembly and allocation of items (*continued*)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Bangladesh, China, Colombia, Egypt, Gambia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Tunisia, Uganda and Zimbabwe (A/55/241)

1. **The Chairman** invited the Committee to consider a request by a number of Member States for the inclusion in the agenda of the fifty-fifth regular session of an additional item entitled "Observer status for Partners in Population and Development in the General Assembly" (A/55/241). He reminded the Committee that, in accordance with paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 54/195, any request for the granting of observer status in the General Assembly would be considered in plenary session after the consideration of the issue by the Sixth Committee. Since the Sixth Committee would not be reconvened before the end of the fifty-fifth session, he suggested that the item might be taken up during the forthcoming session of the General Assembly.

2. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session.*

Implementation of General Assembly resolution 51/241, paragraph 34

Summary by the President of the General Assembly during its fifty-fifth session of the responses received to his letter of 14 June 2001

3. **The Chairman** called the Committee's attention to a written summary, dated 6 September 2001, of responses to his letter of 14 June 2001. That letter had been sent to the members of the General Committee asking for their views and suggestions based on the experience of the Committee for the consideration of the incoming General Committee, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 51/241, paragraph 34. He had also asked for the suggestions of the chairpersons of the Main Committees regarding the work of their respective committees.

4. Although only eight members of the General Committee had responded, their substantive input was worth summarizing. The overall sentiment had been that the Committee had a very important mandate, but that there was room for improvement in its working methods.

5. **Mr. Dangue Réwaka** (Gabon) said that the summary reflected the content of the Chairman's consultations on strengthening and revitalizing the work of the General Assembly. To ensure its relevance and avoid discord, the Assembly must function as a disciplined body with sound rules of procedure, to the benefit of all Member States. His delegation was grateful to the Chairman for his efforts in that direction and looked forward to a lively discussion of the issues during the new session.

6. **The Chairman** said he took it that the Committee wished to forward the summary for the consideration of the incoming General Committee in accordance with resolution 51/241, paragraph 34.

7. *It was so decided.*

The meeting rose at 10.30 a.m.